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Appendix XXXIII.

[*Vide* item X—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 102 *supra*.]

Public (General) Department.

With reference to clause (*f*) of question No. 1223 answered in the Legislative Council on the 24th March 1932 and the answer to the supplementary question thereto the following information is placed on the table of the House:—

Enquiries show that besides Mrs. Prabhu and the constables who escorted her to Vellore there were two ladies and three or four men in the compartment when the train left Tellicherry. They alighted at Calicut. Five or six other persons travelled in that compartment from Calicut as far as Shoranur. No other definite information could be obtained as to the number of passengers who travelled from Shoranur to Vellore, but as the compartment was a large one it is probable that there were several.

G. T. H. Bracken,
Chief Secretary.

27th June 1932.

Appendix XXXIV.

[*Vide* item X—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 102 *supra*.]

Public (General) Department.

U.O. Note No. 10276-1, dated the 18th May 1932.

With reference to the answer to clause (*b*) of question No. **1119** given in the Council on the 24th March 1932, the following information is laid on the table:—

* **1119** *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a written complaint, dated 25th February 1932, from one V. Padmanabha Rao, Inamdar, Ponur (Guntur district), regarding the assault by the Police causing severe injuries on the following among other persons, for disobeying orders under section 144, Indian Penal Code:—

(*a*) Mr. Seshagiri Rao on 18th February 1932 who received over 50 cuts with a hunting whip;

(*b*) Messrs. Thumulur Sivaramayya and Koteswaralu on 10th February 1932;

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(c) Messrs. Dasari Katiah Choudary and Suryadevara Krishniah Choudary volunteers from Nidubrole;

(d) Mr. Padmanabha Rao, who was beaten when going to his home; and

(b) if so, what action he has taken on the conduct of the Sub-Inspector and the head constable for causing such severe injuries to the persons named above as testified to by the copies of medical certificates furnished to the hon. the Home Member?

A.—The persons referred to collected large crowds in public thoroughfares on the dates mentioned and incited them to defy the laws. The crowds obstructed the traffic and behaved in a disorderly manner. They refused to disperse when ordered to do so on each occasion. After due warning they were dispersed by force. Only the minimum force required was used and the persons referred to sustained only slight injuries.

T. Sivaramayya and T. Koteswara Rao were tried and convicted under section 17 (1) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act and section 117, Indian Penal Code, by the Joint Magistrate, Ongole. They did not complain of the use of excessive force either before or at their trial. A. Seshagiri Rao preferred a complaint of hurt against the Station-house Officer in the Sub-Magistrate's Court, Ponur, in which he alleged that some of the injuries were caused by the beating he received at the hands of the Police as he was going from his house. The complaint was returned for presentation before the Joint Magistrate but A. Seshagiri Rao failed to proceed with it.

The allegation that Padmanabha Rao was beaten when going home is false. He joined his brother Seshagiri Rao in collecting the crowd on 18th February 1932 and was beaten during the dispersal of the crowd.

As A. Seshagiri Rao failed to proceed with his complaint, the Government assume that he was unable to substantiate the allegations made and do not propose to take any further action.

G. T. H. Bracken,
Chief Secretary.